Vol. 19 No. 33

Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily

Friday, August 23, 2002

# An example to follow NASSIG Bluejacket of the Quarter 'goes the extra mile'

By SN Michelle Watkins

Staff Writer

MASN Thomas Vasko of Security has received the title of Blue Jacket of the Quarter. According to Vasko, being Blue Jacket is both an honor and a privilege. "There are a lot of people on base who come to work everyday, take the extra step, and fill the leadership position and never get recognition for it," said Vasko.

When asked what he thought about being the new Blue Jacket, "If you come to work and not only do your job, but go that extra mile, and take it upon yourself to take up leadership, people will not only begin to respect you, but come to you for answers," said Vasko.

Vasko has been in Security for over a year and in the Navy for two. He enjoys being in Security, meeting new people and interacting with the community. It has enabled him to have a different outlook, approach life differently, and appreciate people more. "My favorite experience in Security is not only the time I spend on the gates but walking around the base meeting a diversity of people; it has really helped to develop my personality," said Vasko.

Vasko takes his job at Security seriously. According to him, every time he straps a weapon to his side he takes on added responsibility. However that responsibility does not stop there. "Being in Security, you are never really off work, you must abide by the same rules you enforce and must have a higher standard of conduct. People look up to us and are always watching us."

"My advice to all the young Sailors coming here is to get involved, and to get their attention toward their job, school, and future plans. When young Sailors arrive in Sigonella they get caught up with the fact that the drinking age is younger, my advice is for them to not get caught up in the cycle or it could ruin their career," said Vasko Photo

According to his chain of command Vasko is destined for success. "Vasko's performance during the quarter has remained unchanged since his arrival onboard NAS Sigonella over a year ago. He is talented, dynamic, and charismatic. He always displays high ethical princi-

pals, sound and sensible judgment," said MACS Charles Mogle.

Security nominated Vasko for Blue Jacket because of his professional behavior and leadership skills on and off work. According to Security Vasko expertly handles a vide variety of

assignments from traffic accidents to accurately written reports. "Vasko's professional attitude and positive demeanor radiates enthusiasm and 'espirit de corps' through out the Security Department. He sets the example for others to follow," said Mogle.

# Arrivederci, Comandante

Photo

INTERVIEW
Sigonella bids farewell to Salerno
By Alberto Lunetta and
JOC(SW) Priscilla Kirsh

n Wednesday, Col. Claudio Salerno will be relieved by Col. Giorgio Francesco Russo, as Commanding Officer of Sigonella and the 41<sup>st</sup> Stormo. Salerno has been in command of Sigonella since September 1999. As he prepares for his departure, we spent some time with him, and talked about his tour of duty here.

How was your experience working here with the Americans?

Working in Sigonella has been very interesting. This is a unique base because we share the work with the U.S. Navy. It's been a great experience. After being the CO of Sigonella, I'll be ready to face new challenges in my career

SALERNO continued on page 8

# Housing rules and waiting lists

By JO3 Jay Price

There is a rumor that Sigonella residents are finding ways to avoid living in far-away government housing complexes. Even if the rumor was true, it wouldn't be possible with the housing office sticking firmly to NASSIG Instruction 11101.2 series.

According to Neil Snyder, the Housing Director, there is no true way to get around the living assignments for government housing. Each servicemember has the chance to deny every housing assignment until they get the house they want, but the wait could last for several months, and almost a year.

The recently updated instruction states, "based on housing availability, when a member's name reaches the top of the list, he or she may elect to accept or refuse the housing unit that is offered. Personnel may refuse the first unit offered and remain at the top of the list. The next unit offered will be from a

HOUSING continued on page 6

"We don't
want any of
our complexes
to go
underutilized
when Marinai
comes on
line."

**Neil Snyder**Housing Director

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Aug. 12 - Aug. 18

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows: Traffic accidents without injuries - 13 Traffic accident with injuries - 1 Car break-ins - 1 **DUI - 1** DUI's 2002 - 15 DUI's 2001 - 33

# Signature

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# **Direct Line**





Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG Commanding Officer



Our new Navy Exchange and DeCA Commissary Shopping Complex on NAS I has been open for three months now. I am not much of a "shopper", but I have to say I enjoy browsing through the Exchange, smelling the fresh baking bread in the Commissary, and my daughter loves the gelato at the Bee Bar.

The new shopping complex offers a lot of merchandise and services to our community. In order to keep these services available and cost at a minimum, the Exchange and Commissary check ID cards at the registers to ensure that each patron is an authorized customer. Authorized customers are those who have a valid military ID card: active duty, reserve on AT or recall, retirees, NATO forces on orders, U.S. government and contract civilian employees and family

Authorized customers may bring guests into the Exchange and Commissary; however, they must remain with you at all times. Guests are not permitted to make purchases, nor are you as the authorized customer allowed to make purchases for them. If you make purchases for your guests, you may lose your Exchange and Commissary shopping privileges.

For security reasons, customers may be randomly stopped and asked to present their ID card. It is extremely important that your guests do not go wandering about, otherwise they could be asked to leave the shopping area.

This authorized customer and guest policy does not apply to the Food Court area, as it is open to everyone who has access to the Naval Air Station facilities. It only applies to the Exchange and Commissary.

We want to make sure everyone enjoys the new shopping complex, and both the Exchange and Commissary mangers want to ensure our community members that they are getting top quality services and products at affordable prices. Management can do this if everyone understands and complies with the authorized customer and guest policy.

Another policy change scheduled to take effect here on Oct. 1, is a new "No Smoking" policy. The Secretary of the Navy has issued a new instruction regarding smoking inside MWR facilities. Navy-wide, smoking will no longer be allowed inside any MWR facilities. Here at NASSIG, MWR has added an awning near the entrance of Live Wire that will serve as an outside smoking area. The outdoor patio at JOX may also be used as a smoking area. Additional smoking urns and ashtrays will be added at both locations. The corridor outside the Exchange and Commissary extending between the two entrances are also "No Smoking" areas. Smoking is allowed in the outdoor seating area of the Food Court and the open areas toward the main parking lot.

Again, this "No Smoking" policy will be in effect come Oct. 1. If you are interested in quitting smoking or trying to and need some tips on how to, the hospital offers tobacco cessation classes that provide support and assistance to those wanting to break the habit.

# <u>The Pulse</u>

## Adapting to Sig: supervisors can help

By Wanda Webb, LCSW **Contributing Writer** 

Compared to civilian organizations that send employees on international assignment, the Navy has a tremendous commitment to the successful adaptation of its service and family members. One needs only to calculate the cost of sending every service member to the two-week "Indoc" Program, plus the cost of providing the programs, to appreciate this com-

Research directed at civilian spouses of international assignees reveals that the most basic requirements for successful adaptation are often neglected. Many of these spouses complain that they are given little or no information about such things as where to find a

grocery store or medical aid, much less assistance in learning the language, laws and cultural expectations of the host country.

Counseling services and spouse support groups are often non-existent for civilian expatriates, whereas the Navy provides on-base commissaries, clothing, household goods, entertainment, and services that include counseling, psychiatric, and medical resources, a spouse employment service, and a volunteer placement program.

Numerous sports and social support groups, as well as the "sponsor" program, complete a well-rounded and rich resource pool for military families and civilian personnel on international assignment. Attainment of host country language skills and a good social support network are two key factors in successful adaptation, so we should all take advantage of the many resources provided by NAS Sigonella.

How can supervisors contribute to the successful adaptation of employees and their families? Organizational psychologists study work attitudes and behaviors of employees, and how these are affected by the procedures and behaviors of organizations. Many stud-

ies conclude that there is a direct relationship between how employees and their families view the "fairness" of an organization and how these families react to hardships encountered on international (and other) assignments.

Allowing true participation by employees in decision-making, and treating employees with dignity and respect, can reduce the emotional consequences of negative experiences such as having no water or electricity! Since workplace and family relationships are clearly interactive, supervisors can have a positive effect in the homes of their employees as well as in the workplace.

If you are experiencing problems in your adaptation to living overseas, contact your local Fleet and Family Support Center or the USNHSIG Mental Health Department.

### DoD Project 112/ **SHAD Investigation** info now on-line

Special Release from the Department of Defense

The Department of Defense announced enhanced efforts to communicate the results of the Project 112/ Shipboard Hazard and Defense investigation.

A revised site now includes a status report of the declassification of medically relevant information of all Project 112 chemical and biological warfare agent tests conducted in the 1960s.

The Shipboard Hazard and Defense (SHAD) program was a subset of Project 112 tests conducted by the Deseret Test Center. Between 1963 and 1970 under Project 112, 109 tests were planned. To date, DoD has published 12 fact sheets that chronicle ships and units involved in the SHAD tests, when the tests took place, and the substances to which the crews may have been exposed. "We know that the veterans who participated in Project 112 and Project SHAD tests are interested in the progress of our investigation. The new section on the DeploymentLINK Web site will allow them to monitor our progress," said William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs. "This will provide a continuous update until the work is complete."

Currently, the declassification of medically relevant information for 21 of the Project 112 tests is under way; completion and publication of additional fact sheets is expected in early fall. Investigators have also determined that of the 109 identified Project 112 tests, 52 were cancelled, 45 were completed, and the statuses of the remaining 12 are unknown at this time. Official documents reporting test cancellation will be declassified and made available on the site.

Later this month, a team of investigators will travel to Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, to review Deseret Test Center records. Medically relevant information derived from the ongoing investigation will be declassified and made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, veterans and the public. So far, investigators have identified approximately 2,700 to 2,800 servicemembers involved in these tests, many of whom participated in more than one test.

Project SHAD, an acronym for Shipboard Hazard and Defense, was part of the joint service chemical and biological warfare test program conducted during the 1960s. Project SHAD encompassed tests designed to identify U.S. warships' vulnerabilities to attacks with chemical or biological warfare agents and to develop procedures to respond to such attacks while maintaining a warfighting capability. Although classified, the Department of Defense has been actively pursuing declassification of relevant medical information.

Veterans who believe they were involved in SHAD tests and desire medical evaluations should call the VA's Helpline at (800) 749-8387. SHAD fact sheets are available on line at http:// deploymentlink.osd.mil/current\_issues/shad/



### **Tomato & Cucumber Salad** By Bea Cook

Contributing writer

2 medium cucumbers; peeled, seeded,

- 1 Tbsp. white wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp. fresh chopped parsley 2 Tbsp. fresh chopped basil, or 1/2 tsp.
- 1 medium ripe tomato; chopped
- 1 clove garlic; minced
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil

Many studies con-

clude that there is a

direct relationship be-

tween how employ-

ees and their families

view the "fairness" of

an organization and

how these families re-

act to hardships en-

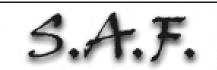
countered on interna-

tional (and other) as-

signments.

8 oz. pasta; cooked, drained

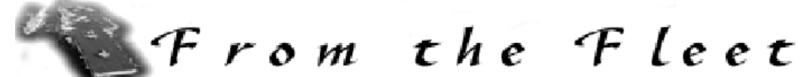
Combine all ingredients, except pasta, in a medium bowl. Add salt and pepper to taste. Toss gently until blended. Add hot, cooked pasta and serve.



Dogs: 1 Cats: 0 Puppies: 0 Kittens: 2



Call 624-3200 for the Stray Animal Facility if you are looking for a particular animal (ie. Breed, size, color or age).



### Pentagon offers help with youth at risk

By Linda D. Kozaryn American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Deployed parents, frequent moves and foreign lands add to typical teen-age turbulence. That can mean trouble for military parents and their commands.

"If teens are hitting the police blotter every Monday morning, the commander needs to know why," said Karen Morgan, a youth specialist who spent 12 years with the Marine Corps' family program before joining the Defense Department two months ago. "If troops are being called back from deployment because of family issues, that detracts from the mission."

Defense officials in the Office of the Assistant Defense Secretary for Military Community and Family Policy aim to help commanders identify what they can do to support youth in their communities. They've contracted for 11 to 15 community assessments by youth development professionals. The assessment has been designed to help a community see what's happening with youth on and off the in-

The program is aimed at prevention, said Barbara Thompson, another youth specialist who spent 18 years with Air Force youth and family programs before joining the Defense Department two years ago.

"We recognize there are a small number of youth at risk in our military communities and we don't want them to be overlooked," she said. "We also want to identify what is working — what helps youth make good choices."

Each service has been allocated a number of assessments, which will be done on a first-come, firstserved basis at the commander's request.

Jan Witte, DoD's children and youth director and Morgan and Thompson's boss, worked for the Army in Europe for 26 years and has been in her position at DoD for 16 months. She echoed her staff's comments. "Commanders have such a limited amount of resources," she said. "The assessment is a tool to help them set priorities. They can't fix everything immediately; they need to know where to start."

The way the program works, Witte said, commanders request an assessment through their service's youth program coordinator. "A commander may learn in town hall meetings or other venues that the youth on base are bored at home alone before their parents return from work or some have initiated risky behaviors," she said.

"The commander might have reports from school principals, or there may have been incidents on school buses," she noted. "He or she might have gotten minutes from a youth council meeting that possibly said, 'We've noticed youth are smoking more as they hang around the youth center or food court."

Once an assessment is approved, a team of five defense contractors request information about the community. About six weeks later, they visit the installation to look at every aspect of community life that presents risks or temptations for youth, as well as the "protective factors" that support healthy youth development. These include strong family communication, programs to recognize youth for their accomplishments and strong mentors.

Drug and alcohol abuse, violent behavior, delinquency, early pregnancies and failure to excel these are some of the risks teens face and defense officials want to help youth avoid these behaviors

that could negatively impact their future, Witte said. The team then also looks at the programs, the people and other community assets that could help reduce those risks and those that are models that protect

The team would interview the commander, family advocacy representative, housing manager, chaplains, health representatives, school officers, community security police chief, and other key people. The team would also do a series of focus group meetings with community youth program staff, school officials, youth in various age groups, parents, and senior enlisted advisers.

"Another critical component of the assessment is meeting with the installation's key players who impact youth, emphasizing collaboration and joining forces to act on the team's recommendations," Thompson added.

"The idea is to gather information from different sources and validate what's being told to them during this assessment," Witte said. "The team is in the community for a week, so this is just a snapshot in

The commander gets a report with the team's observations and recommendations at the end of the team's weeklong visit. "The beauty of it is the oneweek time frame," shesaid, "because so many assessments that we do, it's months before you get a report. This way they can move out, take action and set priorities."

"The report is confidential," Morgan added. "It is the commander's tool. No one else is to see the report unless the commander wants to share."

"And it's not a report card for the commander," Thompson noted. "It's a way for commanders to say, 'I may have concerns about youth at my installation, I may not, but I want to be proactive.' They don't have to worry about anyone inferring they haven't met the needs of their families because they're asking for this team to

When the 11 to 15 assessments are complete, Witte said, the results would give defense officials an overall snapshot of military youth. Defense officials will look at any trends, she said, but they wouldn't be connected with any specific installation, she stressed.

"The point would be to help us decide what issues are affecting our youth," Witte said. "Let's say, smoking is down in the nation, but in the military setting, smoking among youth 12 to 15 is up. We may then take a more directed, defense-wide policy action."

Eventually, Witte added, the Defense Department's youth specialists would like to see the program expand so that all commanders' requests for assessments could

Thompson and Morgan both noted it would also be beneficial to follow-up to see the impact of the commanders' action on the assessment team's recommen-

"This is a collaborative effort," Thompson said. "We're saying to commanders, 'If you want us to come onto your installation, there are some commitments on your side of the house. Commanders must commit to providing the logistical and the personnel support to get the assessment going. We also want to know that commanders are going to take this information and do something with it."

Having the report end up in a drawer wouldn't do anyone any good, Morgan said. "This is a great way to find out what's the current outlook on youth issues and what we can do to make life better," she said.

For more information on the youth-at-risk assessment program, contact barbara.a.thompson@osd.mil.

### MOBI is revolutionizing ship safety

By Journalist 2nd Class Ryan Hicks, USS Abraham Lincoln Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) — During its deployment, USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) will be part of the evaluation process that will change the way the Navy handles man overboard situations. A new three-piece system is now in place to take the guesswork out of knowing if a Sailor is possibly in the water.

A transmitter the size of a Rubik's Cube, a receiver consisting of a whip antenna connected to a small box the size of an answering machine, and a direction finder that points out the relative bearing of the transmitter make up the new man overboard indicator (MOBI) system. With MOBI, the Navy is in the process of revolutionizing safety standards aboard ships.

"The system will highly increase the probability of discovering Sailors overboard and then quickly finding them," said William Dull, a representative from Briar Tek, the company that won the bid to produce MOBI for the Navy two years ago.

This system will be the first to use active technology for the man overboard situation, rather than the normal passive mode of manual detection through the exclusive use of lookouts, according to Chuck Collins, the director of operations for the company.

Three hundred of these transmitters have been passed out so far on board Abe, with an additional 1,200 distributed among the rest of the battle group. Sailors will wear the transmitters in the dye-marker pouches in their

During the deployment, the system will be evaluated to determine possible improvements before it goes Navywide. Currently, the George Washington and Abraham Lincoln battle groups are the only ones to use MOBI, but the Navy plans to have it in place fleet wide sometime in 2003, said Collins. The eventual price tag throughout the Navy rounds out to about \$250 per Sailor. "That's not bad when you consider that every float coat costs \$350," said Collins.

If Sailor falls overboard, the transmitter will activate upon contact with salt water. An antenna located on the O-10 level will receive the signal, which is then displayed on a receiver on the bridge. The signal can be detected up to 18 nautical miles away.

An alarm will sound near the Boatswain's Mate of the Watch station, and the serial number of the transmitter in the water will be displayed on the screen. The receiver also displays the number of transmitters in the water in the event there is more than one Sailor over-

After the signal is received, an antenna on the tower picks up the direction of the signal and displays it on the direction finder in front of the Captain's chair. MOBI also comes with a separate portable direction finder that can be attached to the rigid-hull inflatable boat (RHIB) to help speed up the recovery when the RHIB is de-

BM2 Ken Crowther, who stands the Boatswain's Mate of the Watch on board, said the addition of MOBI is definitely a good thing.

He also added that it should not change the focus or function of the lookouts, though, because in the event of failure, there still need to be eyes looking into the water at all times.

Lt. Tom Baker, an officer of the deck (OOD) on board, was very positive about the effect the MOBI will have on the bridge watch. "It's definitely a great advance in technology toward a safer working environment," said Baker.

flown by the "War Eagles" has proven itself yet again to be an effective weapon in the Navy's arsenal. As a patrol aircraft, it provides a blanket of security for the battle group with its ability to defend against any surface or subsurface threat and provide vital surveillance. As an aircraft with the ability to adapt and meet the changing needs of the Navy and joint forces, the mighty Orion's contributions of to the Navy's defense of the nation are constantly growing.

With the changes in the mission of the Orion have come changes in the required knowledge and expertise of those who operate and maintain the aircraft in a combat ready posture. The men and women of VP 16 have met these growing challenges head on and have performed extremely well. Each squadron member has displayed their exemplary ability to perform missions against whatever threats the U.S. faces. Now, VP 16 will have the opportunity to show how hard they have worked, and how ready they are to protect the nation's freedom and the world from the threat of terrorism.

VP 16 is proud to join the NAS Sigonella team and we look forward to working with you during



### **CAC Appointments Available**

Common Access Cards are now available at PSD by appoinment only. You can go online to infosig.sicily.navy.mil or www.sicily.navy.mil and click on services then CAC appointments. From there, just follow the step by step instruction. An e-mail confimation will be sent to the servicemember.

### **CUB/Boy Scout Recruiting Pool Party**

The scouts and leaders of Cub Scout Pack 53 and Boy Scout Troop 53 will be hosting a joint pool party recruiting drive. Snacks, drinks, and info on the Sigonella Community's Scout programs will be provided. Please attend if you have a boy between first grade and 17 years old who is interested in sports, outdoor activities, leadership, and teamwork. If you are an adult interested in helping with the morale, mental and physical development of our next generation of young men, you are also cordially invited to attend. Many adult leadership positions are available. For more information contact Pack 53 Cubmaster, James Rhodes.

### DRMO Generators Meeting

There will be an important generators meeting on August 30, at 9 a.m., for all generators that turn-in scrap to the DRMO. This includes copper, metal, tires, scrap furniture, aluminum and stainless steel. The meeting will last approximately three hours and each command that turns in this type of property must send one representative. Contact Ed Schwenk at 624-2642 for details.

### **AOSC New Membership Tea**

NAS Sigonella All Officers' Spouse's Club is hosting their annual New Membership Welcome Tea on Sept. 5, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Membership is extended to spouses of commissioned officers, warrant officers, and spouses of retired officers residing in the area, as well as civilian personnel of GS-7 and above and NATO officers and their spouses. If you are available, please consider joining us at this relaxing and informational reception that will include light beverages and hors d'oeuvres. Please call 095-306-428 or e-mail navycrnaman@yahoo.com for further information about AOSC.



In last week's edition of the Signature, on the front-page article Making the right choices, we stated that the National average rate for pregnancies for the year of 1999 was 27 females for every 1,000. The average is 217 females for every 1,000. We also stated that the goal of the Choices program was to prevent single parenthood, when it really is to prevent unplanned pregnancies. We apologize for any misleadings.



An E-1 was found guilty failure to go to appointed place of duty and failure to obey order or regulation. The member was awarded 60 days restriction and forfeiture of \$511 pay per month for two months.

**Photo** 

### The 'War Eagles' have arrived By Lt. Ian Hawley

Contributing Writer

The "War Eagles" of Patrol Squadron 16 have arrived for a six-month deployment in Sigonella, Italy, with a detachment to Souda Bay, Crete, relieving VP 10 as the operational VP Squadron in the Mediterranean. The last time VP-16 deployed to Sigonella was August 1999 to February 2000.

The "War Eagles" hail from Jacksonville, Florida, and just a short 12 months ago, VP 16 returned from a successful split-site deployment in Iceland and Puerto Rico to a joyous reunion with family and friends. The War Eagles were quickly faced with the horrible reality of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11. However, the resolve of the men and women who make up the "War Eagle" team was strong as they prepared for the new mission at hand; defeating terrorism.

Following Sept. 11, VP 16 has been busily preparing for this deployment and flying new missions



as part of the Homeland Defense effort. The War Eagles flew in support of the USS JOHN F. KENNEDY and USS GEORGE WASHINGTON Battle Groups in exercises preparing for the war against terrorism. In these exercises, the P 3C Orion

the next six months.



### Ramacca hosts Bread Festival

Plan to attend the annual edition of the *Sagra del Pane* (Bread festival) that takes place in Ramacca from Aug. 23 through 25. Food booths are open every night at 9 p.m. in piazza Di Fazio and will sell delicious bread portions dressed with fresh olive oil, sun dried tomatoes, oregano, *pecorino* cheese and more

### Motta celebrates Santa Anastasia

From Aug. 23 to 25, a religious festival honoring Santa Anastasia (Saint Anastasia), the city patron saint will take place in the historic center. The Motta community will show its devotion to the saint with processions and holy masses. Complementing the religious festival, fireworks, folklore and music shows will be held in the city *Rioni* (districts).

#### Life of Saint Anastasia

According to tradition, Anastasia was a Roman lady of noble descent. She was the daughter of Praetextatus, a noble pagan. Although she grew up as a pagan, she converted later in life together with her mother to Christianity thanks to the teachings of St. Chrysogonus, her spiritual advisor.

When her mother died, Praetextatus forced her to marry a noble Roman, named Publius, who was also a pagan. As Publio realized she was a Christian and discovered her acts of piety, he confined her to the house. Later on, cruel Publius, who was appointed as the ambassador to the King of Persia, gave orders to an evil man to maltreat his wife so that he would find her dead upon his return. But Publius died during his journey. Therefore, Anastasia was freed, inherited all his properties and returned to her charity activities. Meanwhile, Emperor Diocletian began a

terrible persecution against Christians that also involved St. Chrysogonus who suffered martyrdom in 303 AD.

During one of her extraordinary missions of charity, Anastasia went to Thessalonica where many Christians were under arrest for their faith. Having found that all the prisoners had been butchered, she started weeping loudly. Hence she was brought before the prefect, Florus to whom she confessed she was a Christian.

After several attempts to convince her to give up Jesus' faith, Anastasia was sent to the terrible Emperor Diocletian who was also unsuccessful in exhorting her to abandon her religion.

Eventually, prefect Florus sent her to prison with the intention of starving her. But as the days passed, Anastasia looked healthier instead of getting sick. Florus then thought that the jailer had transgressed his orders to starve her and ordered her to be put on board a ship with 120 idolaters and thieves. The ship was bored with holes and was supposed to sink. The ship soon filled with water, but instead of sinking miraculously went ashore thanks to the intervention of Saint Theodota.

This miracle worked the conversion of all the idolaters and thieves.

Anastasia was then conducted to the island of Palmarola where was she was condemned to death, and burned at the stake in December 304 AD. Her martyred body was first buried in Zara, in Dalmatia. But about the year 460 AD under the Emperor Leo, her relics were transferred to Constantinople (Instanbul).

### Festival schedule

On Aug. 23, a procession leaves from the *Chiesa Madre* (cathedral) at 10:30 p.m. and proceeds through the town's streets.

The second day of the festival begins with a Mass

celebrated at the *Immacolata* Church at 7:30 a.m.

A small procession headed toward piazza Castello, during which devotees greet Santa Anastasia, follows at 8:30 a.m.

Half an hour later, a solemn Holy Mass is celebrated in piazza Castello. During the mass, Monsignor Giovanni Perni from Catania celebrates the anointing of the sick. Local authorities and representatives from the city districts offer candles, gifts and flowers to the saint while youngsters of the local parishes and scouts groups gather to sing religious songs.

After the mass, a life-size statue depicting the Santa Anastasia and her relics is taken to the *Immacolata* Church and displayed for worship until noon.

In the evening, starting at 9 p.m., folklore shows are held in piazza Umberto. Fireworks close the celebrations at midnight.

On Aug. 25 starting at 6:30 a.m., cannon shots, firecrackers and peal of bells open the celebrations.

Bishop of Catania Salvatore Gristina celebrates a solemn High Mass in honor of Santa Anastasia in piazza Castello at 9:30 a.m. Local civilian and religious authorities and the city districts representatives attend the mass holding up their banners.

Folklore shows are held in the evening starting at 9 p.m.

The festival comes to an end with a grand finale of fireworks at midnight.

# Religious Festival in Carlentini

A religious festival honoring Santa Lucia (Saint Lucy) will be held in Carlentini, near Siracusa, from Aug. 24 through 26.

The cult of Santa Lucia in Carlentini dates back to the year 1621. According to tradition, the Carlentini community chose her as the city patron saint because, on her way to the pilgrimage to the tomb of Saint Agatha to pray for her mother's healing, she stopped in *Meta*, the hill on top of which Carlentini was built.

Celebrations last three days and feature Holy Masses, procession and music shows. The highlight of the festival is Aug. 25 at 10 a.m, when the statue depicting Saint Lucy is carried throughout the historic center for a solemn procession accompanied by cannon shots, firecrackers and peal of bells.

For more information call *Carlentini Tourist Office* at 095-991108.



Photo by Massimo \

Motta will celebrate Sant'Anastasia, its patron saint, with a lively three-day festival from Aug. 23 to 26. The festival features solemn processions during which the statue depicting the saint is carried throughout the city districts, holy masses, blessing ceremonies, folklore shows, chants and fireworks.

Ad

Photo

# HOROSCOPES

ARIES: You can make money through your creative efforts. You will have no problem getting your point across to those in a position to help you. Be careful not to get involved in other people's personal affairs. Do not over expand if you have your own business. TAURUS: Opportunities for new romantic encounters will unfold through the social events you attend. Travel will be to your advantage; however, it might be expensive. You can certainly gain popularity; however, don't do it by paying for everyone else.

**GEMINI**: Time spent with family, children, or good friends will be regenerating and positive. You need an outlet that will help take your mind off any troubles at work. Try to keep an open mind. Your lover may be annoyed if you have been flirtatious or not attentive to their needs.

**CANCER**: Evasion is likely if you aren't direct about your feelings. Take a second look; difficulties with appliances, water, or electricity in your home may be evident. You may have an abundance of innovative ideas; but before you proceed make sure that you take along hard look at the cost factor.

**LEO**: You need to make your lover feel wanted, not like a piece of the furniture. Try to be reasonable. Outbursts of passion may cause arguments with your mate. You must be careful not to reveal secrets or get involved in gossip. Think before you act if you wish to avoid friction. Real estate investments could be

VIRGO: Relatives may not be telling you the whole truth about a family situation. Spend some time with the one you love. Pleasure trips will be satisfying. You will find yourself tied to the phone. Communications will be plentiful, but misunderstandings and exaggeration could lead to problems with colleagues as well as relatives.

LIBRA: You may have the opportunity to get involved in some interesting conversations. Your contributions will be valued and helpful. Opportunities for new friendships are apparent. You can expect changes in your living arrangements. Secret activity is evident. Verbal abuse could lead to carelessness. SCORPIO: Investments may be misrepresented this week. Dig deep to find out how costly a new venture will be before you sign on the dotted line. Children

week. Dig deep to find out how costly a new venture will be before you sign on the dotted line. Children may be less than honest with you. You will have a problem holding on to your cash this week. Leave your checkbook and credit cards at home.

SAGITTARIUS: Social activity should be on your agenda this week. Think of joining a health club that will benefit your physical appearance. Help children complete projects they're having difficulty with. You can make changes to your living quarters that should please family members. Don't give out any personal information that you don't want spread around.

CAPRICORN: Social activity should be on your agenda, Get involved in sports events that will benefit your physical appearance. Help children with important projects. Deception is likely. You can get the attention of important individuals but it might not be the time to get them to help or to back your ideas. AQUARIUS: Self-improvement projects will payoff in more ways than one. You will feel better about yourself and you may also meet potential lovers. Someone you least expect may not have your best interests at heart.

**PISCES**: Insincere gestures of friendliness may be misleading. Travel may be confusing. Be aware that minor accidents or injury may prevail if you are preoccupied. Your pilgrimage may end up being fruitless. You have been going through a period of change that no doubt caused problems with your loved ones.



Reign of Fire (Rated PG-13)

In present-day London, twelve-year-old Quinn watches as his mother, a construction engineer inadvertently wakes an enormous fire-breathing beast from its century-long slumber. Twenty years later, the beast and its offspring have scarred much of the world. As a fire chief, Quinn is responsible for warding off the beasts and keeping a community alive. Into their midst comes a hotshot American who says he has a way to kill the beasts and save mankind, a way Quinn's never seen done. Cast: Christian Bale, Matthew McConaughey, Gerald Butler.



Which bear is born smaller than a mouse and weighs about four ounces?

What is the least popular month to be married in?

The only mobile national monument is found in San Francisco, what is it?

How much can the largest bird weigh?

What was the first toy to be advertised on U.S. television?

(Answers on page 7)

### Best Sellers-- E.T. Collectibles



23" Light Plush
12" Collection with Base & Sound
Spaceship Mini-Playset
Deluxe Figure 12" Plush
12" Animatronics





# They did what? Watch the birdie...

A teen-age motorcycle rider died Wednesday as he turned to give the finger to police officers who had given up pursuing him. He slammed into a taxi, police said. A 20-year-old friend of the 19-year-old unnamed boy also sustained a broken jaw.

The driver of the taxi into which the motorcycle rider crashed was not hurt. Police said officers in a patrol car noticed the motorcycle riders had ignored a traffic light shortly after midnight, so turned on their siren and began chasing them. But the motorcycle was able to maneuver the narrow roads far easier than the patrol car and soon sped off some hundreds of meters ahead of the police. Realizing the chase was futile, officers turned off their wailing sirens. The two students riding the motorcycle turned around toward the officers and gave them the finger. However, they failed to notice that they had gone through another red light and slammed into the taxi. The boy steering the motorcycle died instantly.

# Off the Rack! Proof of Life



With acting performances that soar above what's seen in most thrillers, "Proof of Life" delivers drama, action and emotion in equal parts.

Peter Bowman (David Morse), an engineer working in an unnamed Latin American country on an unpopular oil pipeline project, is kidnapped by extremists with cloudy political and financial aims. When his wife, Alice (Meg Ryan) discovers that his company is bankrupt and without insurance to pay the ransom, she begs professional hostage negotiator Terry Thorne (Russell Crowe) for help. But this is more than a simple kidnapping and Terry Thorne is not your average negotiator.

Nerve-racking negotiations over a ransom ensue. Meanwhile, director Taylor Hackford (The Devil's Advocate, Delores Claiborne) intercuts scenes in the mountainous jungle lair of the kidnappers, where we see Peter fight valiantly to retain his identity and survive under increasingly severe conditions. As time passes Terry and Alice realize they are in a race against time – ransom Peter or free him before the kidnappers execute him.

One memorable shows Alice and her sister-in-law (Pamela Reed) frantically stuffing cash into large plastic trash bags in order to buy a "proof of Life," evidence that Peter is still alive.

Russell Crowe and Meg Ryan deliver two of the year's best performances. The strain shows as the pressure mounts and Peter's survival comes into doubt.

This movie is packed with contradictions like fear and bravery, love and anger, lies and trust. But the biggest contradiction of all is Alice and Terry working desperately to save Peter's life while an attraction between them grows.

Proof of Life is rated R.

By JO1 Craig Coleman

# MWR's New York City contest now open

By Robin A. Hillyer Miles Public Affairs Specialist NPC MWR Division

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — If your vagabond shoes are longing to stray, you may have a chance to explore New York City. Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) has planned a dream ticket trip for 10 lucky winners and their guests to be a part of the excitement in New York from Dec. 27, 2002 to Jan. 2, 2003

Active duty personnel stationed on a naval facility and their family members ages 18 and older are invited to enter the newest Saluting Sailors and Their Families contest. Navy New Year's Eve in New York City is now open.

No purchase is required and there are four ways to enter from Aug. 1 to Nov. 1. Enter via the web site www.mwr.navy.mil. Fax in an entry form to (901) 874-6831 or DSN 882-6831. E-mail your form to NYCtrip@persnet. navy.mil. Or use the U.S. Postal Service and mail in your entry form to Saluting Sailors and Their Families, Attn: Navy New Year's NYC Contest, P O Box 606, Millington, Tenn., 38053-0606.

Entry forms may be found at most any of your local MWR facilities beginning August 1. Contact Navy MWR Division to receive an en-

try form at contestinfo@persnet.navy.mil. A city tour is included in the trip, but you'll also be given some free time to venture out on your own. Museum fans will find themselves in museum mecca. Dining opportunities abound in this city of lights. Even strolling down Fifth Avenue is an adventure not to be missed. Do we even need to mention the shopping opportunities?

Wake up in the city that never sleeps with excellent accommodations. The Plaza was opened in 1907 and at the time was a 19-story skyscraper residence built for the elite of the elite. The Vanderbilts held a suite of rooms at The Plaza for years. The hotel was first used as a movie set for Alfred Hitchcock's "North by Northwest". The magnificent 805 superb guestrooms and suites overlook either Central Park or Fifth Avenue. In recent years, the hotel has been gloriously restored and subtly modernized to offer travelers the utmost in comfort and luxury.

You'll find your King of the hill, top of the heap. Every detail of your travel is completely planned from the limousine ride from the airport to the hotel to the fun little gifts left in your room. Your personal escorts have pre-arranged your check-in and transportation to all group events. Okay, they'll even reimburse your taxi/

public transportation fares too!

Melt those little town blues away. Your **Broadway Show** and Radio City Music Hall tickets have been purchased and are awaiting your arrival. Last year the attendees saw such shows as "The Produc-"Aida", ers", "The Lion King', and "A

Chorus Line". No winter trip to New York is complete without the Radio City Music Hall's Holiday Spectacular with the world famous Rockettes.

Make a brand new start of it with a spectacular New Year's Eve celebration right in the very heart of Times Square with about a million of your close friends. If you make it there you'll make it anywhere, including lounging on New Year's Day

les.

Photo courtesy of timessquarebid.org

in the Hospitality Room as you watch the Bowl Games, or get on out and be a part of it in old New York with a day of sightseeing.

Be sure to enter to win – it's up to you, New York, New York.

For more information about MWR functions, visit their Web site at www.mwr.navy.mil. For more Navy Personnel Command news, visit their NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnp.

## HOUSING continued from page 1

different housing complex and if not accepted will result in their name being removed from the waiting list. The application will be cancelled and the member will be required to wait 90 days before submitting a new application."

Snyder said that the wait list is built the way it is so that way every housing area is being utilized fairly. "The reason we do this is that we don't want any of our complexes to be underutilized when Marinai comes online. Everyone would be on the Marinai waiting list and no one would be on the Mineo list. So we have one wait list subdivided by bedrooms and rank on the same list. That helps us better manage our inventory by offering underutilized units in Mineo and try to get them built up rather than putting everyone in Marinai."

The one wait list is not only subdivided by the number of bedroom and rank, but also by pet sta-

tus. Servicemembers with pets only have a few places that accept pets and because of that, members will not be offered houses that don't accept pets.

Also, the first 88 units in Marinai to open in Oct. will be available only to Costanzo residents. In Feb. 2003, 98 additional units will become open for people living on the economy that wish to move to government housing.

Snyder forewarns people about leaving government housing to live on the economy; trying for the first 98 units might end up in two unwanted areas and the servicemember will have to wait 90 days before trying to apply again, by then, Marinai might be filled.

For residents living on the economy or new to Sigonella, Snyder listed the government housing application rules. "Basically, you need to come

into the housing office and fill out a 1746, bring a copy of your orders and a copy of the updated page two (record of emergency)."

"Now, based on your detachment date from your last duty station, you'll be given a control number and that is your priority on the wait list for housing. If you've been on station for more than 30 days, the date of application would be your control number," explained Snyder.

Waiting lists are subdivided on rank and family size, and according to Snyder, "once you come into housing, you will be placed on the housing wait list determined by your eligibility for housing. Based on your family size or your rank, you can be placed in different categories. For junior enlisted: two to four bedrooms, senior enlisted and junior officer: three to four rooms, and senior officers receive four bed-

rooms."

The instruction also grants pregnant servicemembers the opportunity for new housing assignments. Unmarried pregnant servicemembers without dependants may only apply for housing in their third trimester. This also goes for servicemembers whom already have children that would grant them more bedrooms. This instruction was made for the convenience of the servicemember so they would not have to juggle a newborn and moving arrangements.

Snyder also stated that servicemembers who have significant hardships with their housing arrangements might be granted a new housing assignment. Select rules apply. To get details about housing assignments, or to receive a copy of the NASSIG Instruction 11101.2, call the Housing Office at 624-4105.



Sigonella television schedule Friday, Aug 23 Saturday, Aug 24 Sunday, Aug 25 Monday, Aug 26 Tuesday, Aug 27 Wednesday, Aug 28 Thursday, Aug 29 Friday, Aug 30 CET CET ESPN News Headline News ESPN News ESPN News NFL Tonight MLB ESPN News Movie:Sinale ESPN News NASCAR Prerace ESPN News Headline News ESPN News Movie: Star Trek ESPN News MLB 00:00 SportsCente 00:00 00:30 Headline News College Football 01:00 01:00 Monday Night Countdown
Monday Night Football 01:30 02:00 NASCAR Seinfeld 01:30 Spin City 02:00 Entertainment Tonight WWF Superstars America's Black Forum Movie: Dad 02:30 Movie: Batman & Robin 03:00 03:00 Headline News Headline News Meet the Press Headline News Headline News Headline News 04:00 04:30 **ABC World News ABC World News ABC World News ABC World News** ABC World News 04:30 Headline News ABC World News ESPN News NBC Nightly News 05:00 05:30 05:00 Headline News NBC Nightly News NBC Nightly News **ESPN News NBC Nightly News NBC Nightly News** 05:30 ESPN News NBC Nightly News Little Bill Sesame Street 06:00 06:30 07:00 Sesame Street Sesame Street Sesame Street Coral Ridge Hour 06:30 Franklin Peter Rabbit Harold and the Purple Crayon Christopher Closeup Cafe Video Wheel of Fortune Wheel of Fortune Oprah Winfrey Blue's Clues 07:00 Teletubbies Teletubbies Wheel of Fortune Oprah Winfrey Wheel of Fortune Oprah Winfrey Wheel of Fortune Oprah Winfrev Dora the Explorer Oprah Winfrey Wheel of Fortune Oprah Winfrey 07:30 08:00 07:30 08:00 08:30 Mary Kate & Ashley **Book of Virtues** Port Charles Guidina Liaht 08:30 09:00 The Odd Parents Port Charles Port Charles Pokemon Family Movie: Port Charles 09:00 Port Charles **Guidina Liaht** Lizzy McGuire Robotica 09:30 10:00 09:30 **Guidina Liaht Guiding Light** General Hospital General Hospital **Guiding Light** 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30 12:00 12:30 General Hospital Headline News General Hospital Headline News General Hospital Headline News General Hospital This Old House **Headline News** Cinema Secrets **Headline News** 11:00 **Headline News** Judge Judy Today Judge Judy Todav At the Movies Judge Judy Judge Judy Today Judge Judy Todav Judge Judy Todav 11:30 Motor Week 12:00 Entertainment Tonight **Headline News** 12:30 Air ForceTV News 13:00 13:30 WWF Smackdown 13:00 13:30 Arthur The Proud Family Mighty Ducks The Weekenders Rugrats Happily Ever Afte Arthur Rocket Power 14:00 14:30 My Wife and Kids Winnie the Pooh Hey Arnold King of Queens SpongeBob 14:30 Recess Yu-Gi-Oh! The Mummy 15:00 15:30 Enterprise Law & Order WWF Superstars 15:00 7th Heaven Horrible Histories All That Croc Files 7th Heaven Brothers Gracia Taina Bonehead 15:30 Jeopardy! Headline News ESPN News Jeopardy Headline News 16:00 Jeopardy! Andromeda Jeopardy! Jeopardy! Jeopardy! 16:00 Headline News CNN 16:30 17:00 17:30 Headline News Headline News Headline News 16:30 17:00 ESPN News ESPN News ESPN News ESPN News Headline News **SportsCenter** Navy/Marine Corps News SportsCenter Headline News VH1 Military Diaries **Headline News** MLB Headline News **Headline News Headline News** Headline News <u>17:30</u> 18:00 18:30 60 Minutes 7th Heaven The Simpsons Friends The Simpsons 18:00 Everybody Loves Raymond Will & Grace 18:30 Malcolm in the Middle NFL Yearbook Malcolm in the Middle 19:00 19:30 NFL Special College Football National Geographic Special Movie: Runaway Bride Fear Factor 19:00 Fear Factor 19:30 Scrubs 20:00 20:30 Alias **Boston Public** CSI Alias 20:00 20:30 Headline News Tonight Show w/Jay Leno Headline News ight Show w/.lav Leno Headline News Headline News **Headline News** Headline News 21:00 Tonight Show w/Jay Leno Tonight Show w/ Jav Leno Tonight Show w/ Jav Leno 21:30 Tonight w/Jav Leno 21:30

Late Show w/Letterman

ESPN News

Late Show w/Letterman

ESPN News

Late Show w/ Letterman

Late show w/ Letterman

22:00

22:30 23:00

Late Show w / Letterman

Golf

22:00 22:30

23:00 23:30 Late Show w / Letterman



#### Recent Results:

### **Intramural Summer Basketball League**

Regular Season			
st Place:	Supply A	8	0
2nd Place:	Security	6	2
3rd Place:	Admin	5	3

### **Post Season Tournament**

1st Place:	Supply A
2nd Place:	Admin
3rd Place:	Supply B

### Captain's Cup Intramural Softball Final Standings

	<u>A</u>	Lea	ıg	<u>ue</u>	
Re	egu	lar	S	eas	on

1st Place:	Weapons	17	7
2nd Place:	COMSTA	16	8
3rd Place:	AIMD	16	8

### **Post Season Tournament**

1st Place;	Weapons
2nd Place:	AIMD
3rd Place:	TSC

#### **B** League Regular Season

1st Place:	VP-10	10	1
2nd Place:	ETD	9	2
3rd Place:	Flight Line	8	3

### Post Season Tournament

1st Place:	HC-4
2nd Place:	Flight Line Clinic
3rd Place:	AIMD "B"

### Women's League Regular Season

1st Place:	MWR	8	0
2nd Place:	AIMD	5	3
3rd Place:	Supply	5	3

### Post Season Tournament

1st Place: **AIMD** 2nd Place: **COMSTA** 3rd Place: MWR

### 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament: "Ramacca Invitational"

Champions: NAS Sigonella **Rod Perkins** Anthony Turner George Sayles

### **Upcoming Events:**

### Free Tennis Clinic: Aug. 26-30 (5:30-6:30 p.m.)

Would you like to learn how to play the greatest lifetime sport in the world?

Come out and learn the fundamentals. You experienced players can sharpen your skills and work on your strokes. Racquets and balls are available. For more information, call Ron at x2710. See you on the court!

### 3rd Annual Sigonella Open Golf Championships

No more goofy stuff...this is straight up golf! All participants must have a USGA handicap card.

It's an individual play golf tournament so bring your "A" game. Don't worry, if you're a hacker...you'll still enjoy a fun day on the links. Il Picciolo is a beautiful course that is challenging at all levels. Transportation and lunch are provided.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies will be awarded for the top three golfers with and without handicaps. The top non-handicapped golfer will get his or her name on the giant cup at the NAS II Gym!

### Absentee Voting Program Kicks Into High Gear

By Jim Garamone American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14, 2002 (NNS) — If you think your vote doesn't count, just ask George W. Bush and Al Gore.

With the 2002 general election fast approaching Nov. 5, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) officials are sponsoring Armed Forces Voters Week, Sept. 1-7. The week is designed for military installations worldwide to highlight voting issues.

"The objective is to create awareness of the electoral process and to motivate military members to participate in the upcoming general election," said Polli Brunelli, federal voting program director. "We want to encourage our military members, their dependents, our federal employees overseas and our overseas citizens to be aware of the elections and to exercise their right to vote."

She noted that the 2002 elections cover a third of the U.S. Senate, the entire U.S. House of Representatives, 37 governors and hundreds of local races. "These are lawmakers who will effect policies that govern our way of life," she said.

The states govern the voting rules for their residents. The FVAP works with state officials to ease absentee ballot processes. For example, Brunelli said, the program asked the states to allow service members deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom to receive voting materials by facsimile machines and to fax in completed ballots.

The agency urges military personnel to contact installation voting assistance officers to learn about what they must do to vote in 2002. All units with more than 25 people also have voting assistance officers.

U.S. citizens residing overseas can visit embassies and consulates and get the same informa-

The program launched an education process to teach voting assistance officers what they need to know to help service members. Worldwide, the office sponsored more than 100 workshops, Brunelli said.

She said her office has met with state leaders to ensure that all absentee ballots are in on time, properly filled out and counted.

### **SALERNO** continued from page 1

Sigonella is placed under Italian command so we control all the air traffic. All of the American information for air traffic goes through the Italian command. It's been a great experience to work together. There are many different aspects to work-

I've established a great relationship with both the Italian and American personnel that went beyond the uniform. I've formed some lasting friendships here. I have also enjoyed working with the people of the local economy.

### Tell us about your next assignment.

I'm going to the Italian Air Force Joint Chief of Staff in Rome. I'm looking forward to the new task. It's an important assignment; we overlook all aspects of the Italian Air Force. It's a very demanding, but also a rewarding assignment. I'll be working side by side with the general.

### What will you miss about Sigonella?

I will miss Sicily, beautiful sunny Sicily, the beautiful sea and the great Sicilian people who have shown me a lot of hospitality.

I'll miss flying; with my new assignment I will have less opportunities to do that. I'll miss all the friends I made here, both Italian and American.

Speaking of friends, it's difficult to speak about a friend, but Capt. Davison is a wonderful person, he's correct and honest. He made me feel comfortable in every situation.

Every time we discussed an issue. I always felt that I was talking to a friend, not just my counterpart, and not just another commanding officer. That's important because it's not always like this. He has a beautiful wife and child, and I wish him and everyone else here in Sigonella a happy future.

We wish Col. Salerno and his family fair winds and following seas in his new tour of duty